

A barcode graphic with the following text overlaid:

02/06/01  
JAMES  
RETIREMENT  
HC715 U.S.

JAMES E. NILLES  
ANDREW J. NILLES  
JIM G. DURST  
JIM M. GEHRKE  
S. MICHAEL PATTON  
LINDA E.B. HANSEN

CHARLOTTE SHAPIRO  
THADDEUS C. STANKOWSKI  
JEROME D. DRABIAK  
MATTHEW C. LOPPNOW

REGISTERED PATENT AGENT:  
LISA A. BRZYCKI

02-07-01

14

# NILLES & NILLES,<sup>SC</sup>

---

FIRSTAR CENTER, SUITE 2000  
777 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202-5345

TELEPHONE: 414.276.0977

FACSIMILE: 414.276.0982

EMAIL: [iplaw@nilles-nilles.com](mailto:iplaw@nilles-nilles.com)

February 6, 2001

Customer #023907

JC972 U.S. PRO  
09/777970  
02/06/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: **UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)**  
First Inventor or Application Identifier: LINDSEY et al.  
Divisional of U.S. Serial No. 08/861,438 filed May 21, 1997,  
Allowed November 7, 2000  
Title: **METROPOLITAN AREA NETWORK SWITCHING SYSTEM AND  
METHOD OF OPERATION THEREOF**  
Assignee: Physical Optics Corporation  
Express Mail Label No. EL516555338US  
Attorney Docket No.: 100.229

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is our check in the amount of \$719 in payment of the government filing fee for the enclosed United States patent application, which application includes 73 pages of specification, 56 claims, Abstract of the Disclosure, 38 sheets of formal drawings, an executed Declaration, and a Preliminary Amendment. An Information Disclosure Statement is also enclosed. Applicants respectfully claim Small Entity Status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.

This application is a divisional of Serial No. 08/861,438, filed May 21, 1997, and allowed November 7, 2000. The assignment to Physical Optics Corporation in the parent application was recorded in the Patent Office on November 17, 1997 in Reel 8856, Frame 0935-37.

LINDSEY et al.  
February 6, 2001  
Page 2

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-1080.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew C. Loppnow  
Registration No. 45,314

Certification Under 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail Label No: EL516555338US

Date of Deposit: February 6, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
Angela M. Weinstock